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BOOK REVIEWS.

EDWARD N. PERKINS, *Editor-in-Charge.*

CASES ON PERSONS AND DOMESTIC RELATIONS, selected from decisions of English and American Courts, by ALBERT M. KALES. American Case Book Series, James Brown Scott, General Editor. St. Paul: WEST PUBLISHING Co. 1911. pp. xxix, 654.

In the construction of this book Professor Kales has had in mind a theory and an ideal. His theory, he tells us in his frank and interesting preface, he formed after a study of Professor Langdell's case books. His ideal he finds in the case books of Professor Ames, to whom with appreciative words he dedicates his own work.

Briefly stated, Professor Kales' theory is that the more recent case books are a basis for the study of comparative law, rather than the law of any jurisdiction. The ideal case book, as illustrated by those of Professor Ames, should be of moderate size, made up of brief cases selected with reference to the problems presented therein, and accompanied with notes containing illustrative matter and appropriate comment.

The application of this theory, which we believe is sound, would result in the production of a book devoted to the main topics of a subject, with cases presenting problems dealt with by courts of two or more jurisdictions. The actual and the ideal solution of these problems will be the basis for discussion in the classroom. Of course only by use of the book can one say how far Professor Kales has succeeded in applying his theory. There is no doubt that it shows great industry and excellent judgment. The matter assigned to each topic is well proportioned with reference to the whole. Possibly more space should have been given to Adoption, a subject of theoretical and practical importance, presenting problems of difficulty and interest, and deserving more than a brief note.

The notes are ample and seem to be just what notes to a case book ought to be. There is a good subject index, but, best of all, the table of cases includes not merely the titles of cases printed in the book, but also those cited in the notes. This is an improvement over any case book which we have seen, and in this regard makes Professor Kales' book notable. This feature might be made to include cases mentioned in the body of the opinions.

N. A.

CASES ON THE LAW OF SURETYSHIP Selected from Decisions of English and American Courts, by CRAWFORD D. HENING, Professor of Law in the University of Pennsylvania. American Case Book Series, James Brown Scott, General Editor. St. Paul: WEST PUBLISHING Co. 1911. pp. xx, 620.

This is one of the latest of this excellent series of case books the making of which, aside from their intrinsic value, cannot fail to result in great benefit to the teaching force of this country, due to the effort of searching for material and classifying and arranging it. The influence on our law schools from the effort in making these volumes, in the quickening of the intellectual life of a large number of teachers, will be a by-product which though intangible and hard to estimate, must be one of the most valuable effects of their preparation.